# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3304
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2017
Cultural Exchange
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

**Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of programmes of cultural exchange which have been officially held between North Eastern States and the rest of the country;

(b) the efforts being made to integrate North Eastern States with the national mainstream; and

(c) the success achieved as a result thereof?

## Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

(a) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region along with North Eastern Council inter alia sponsors programmes in which artists from North Eastern States showcased the art and culture in different parts of the country. The Cultural exchange officially organized by Ministry of Culture 2017 are as follows:-

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(i) Participation of North Eastern Artistes in programme held in other parts of the country
Sl. No. Name of Programme Venue Date
1. Simhastha Kumbh Kala Utsav Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh 12 - 21 May, 2016
2. Folk Fair -2016 Jagannath Dam, Puri 4-8 June, 2016
3. Chitrankan Contemporary Painting Workshops Rajiv Gandhi Kala Mandir, Ponda, Goa 17-26 June, 2016
4. Swatantryaveer Savarkar Rashtriya Smarak Mumbai 6 July, 2016
5. 10th Abhinaya National Theatre Festival Rabindrabharati Auditorium, Hyderabad 11 August, 2016
6. Fete-de-Puducherry Puducherry 14-16 August, 2016
7. -do- Karaikal 17 & 18 August, 2016
8. 8 Edition of Annual Theatre Festival of Purba Pashim Kolkata 29 August 2016
9. Octave-2016 Ajmer, Rajasthan 21−25 September, 2016
10. Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2016 IGNCA,Delhi 15-23 October, 2016
11. Kithur Utsav-2016 Belagavi, Karnataka 23-25 October, 2016
12. Rajyotsav Raipur, Chhattisgrah 1-5 November, 2016
13. Sambhav − 2016 India International Centre, New Delhi 11 -13 November, 2016
14. National Folk Craft & Folk Painting Kannur, Kerala 20-24 November, 2016
15. Utkal-Banga Utsav 2016
Sahabajipur (Digha Border), Balasore Dist., Odisha 21-25 November, 2016
16. 27th Industrial Trade Fair − 2016 Jajpur Road, Jajpur, Odisha 2-4 December, 2016
17. Octave-2016 Ranchi, Jharkhand 4-8 December, 2016
18. Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav Banaras Hindu University,Varanasi 17-24 December, 2016
19. Salangai Nadam Thanjavur 23-31 December, 2016
20. Lokotsav Panaji, Goa 6-10 January, 2017
21. National Folk Arts Festival and
Bahuroopi National Theatre Fests Mysore 13-15 January, 2017
Thiruvananthsapuram 17-19 January, 2017
22. Nagas Night - 2017 Bangalore 21 January, 2017
23. Republic Day Parade-2017 Marina, Chennai 23-26 January, 2017

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(ii) Participation of Artistes from other ZCCs in programmes held North Eastern Artistes
1. Border Area Programme −" Bridging the Borders" Lachen, Sikkim 7 & 8 November, 2016
2. Discover North East −Mizoram Kolasib, Kawnpui & Vairengte 16-18 November, 2016
3. Manipur Sangai Festival Imphal, Manipur 21-30 November, 2016
4. Discover North East −Tripura Kailasahar, Kumarghat & Manu 25-27 November, 2016
5. Border Area Programme −" Bridging the Borders" Champai, Mizoram 29 & 30 November, 2016
6. Discover North East-Sikkim Rongpur,Rongli & Rhenok & Pakyong 2-5 December, 2016
7. Border Area Programme Mimi Village & Pungro 8 & 9 December, 2016

8. Discovery North East-Manipur Tamei Noney & Tamenglong 8-10 December, 2016
9. Discovery North East-Meghalaya Nongpoh, Byrnihat & Umsning 15 -17 December, 2016
10. Shipgram Mahotsav NEZCC Shilpgram, Guwahati 17-21 January, 2017

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(b) In order to integrate North Eastern states with the national mainstream, the recommendations of the MP Bezbaruah Committee setup by the Ministry of Home Affairs are also being implemented. One of the key recommendations of the Committee was to educate people about North East, so as to inculcate understanding and appreciation of the culture of North East. It also talked about integration inter alia through cultural exchange and films. It had also talked about calendar of cultural events.
Ministry of DoNER and NEC have organised several programmes aimed at highlighting national integrity. Bharat Utsav was organised at IIC, New Delhi in December 2016 showcasing various dance forms of North East and other parts of India and the fusion of cultures in them. A North East cultural festival was also sponsored in Daulat Ram college of Delhi University. Similarly, the NEC in collaboration with International Centre, Goa sponsored North East Pavilion in Goa Arts and Literary Festival held during 08th -11th December, 2016 to showcase the talents of writers and artists from NER and help them interact with writers from other parts of India. Ministry of DoNER in collaboration with NEC has also sponsored North East troops with North East Zone Cultural Centre for holding events in the 14th Folk-Fair, 2016, National Tribal/ Folk Song & Dance Festival with the National Level Exhibition, Jagannath Dham Puri which was held from 4th to 8th June, 2016 in which the integration of all forms of tribal folk dance from across India including NER were showcased. The Ministry of Culture through its schemes namely National Cultural Exchange Programme and Octave Festival of the North East has made fruitful efforts to integrate North Eastern States with the National mainstream.

(c) All the above programmes have been very successful in emphasising the unity in diversity of Indian culture while highlighting the beauty and cultural richness of NER. The Ministry of Culture through North East Zonal Culture Centre has provided a common platform to the artists from the North Eastern States and from other zones for a meaningful interaction. Such close interaction is the success to integrate North Eastern States with the National mainstream.